

half-life to be as pure from disease and endowed with as many good qualities as her own that the child she bears shall be born inheriting his or her full complement of health, both mental and physical.

G. CHAMBERS.

Baker, HELEN. *Race Improvement or Eugenics.* New York. Dodd, Mead and Co.; 1912; price \$1.00 net; pp. 137.

WE cannot extend to Miss Baker's volume quite that hearty welcome which we are always anxious to bestow upon any well-intentioned addition to the literature of popular eugenics. The book is one of assertion rather than of argument and proof. There is too great a tendency to dismiss in a few paragraphs, by the frequent use of the words "we must," problems whose solution and adjustment will tax the good will and ingenuity of governments for long years to come. And we find it very difficult to forgive Miss Baker for suggesting that there are any "short cuts to the eugenics millennium."

"American Eugenists," we are told, "will never rest until our race becomes the fittest on the earth. Other nations shall teach us if they can, we will better their instruction. Monarchical old-world peoples, restrained by traditions, tied down by red tape, drugged by the dread of progress, may justify their own inertia, we cannot sink with them. We are leaders and pioneers." This is interesting information; but the present volume, at all events, hardly substantiates the claim.

There are no reasons for commending this book to English readers; for they are fortunate in having at hand several small volumes of similar purport, which are much to be preferred both on account of their matter and their price.

R. DIXON KINGHAM.

Clouston, SIR THOMAS, M.D., LL.D. *Morals and Brain.* London, New York, Toronto, and Melbourne. Cassell and Co.; 1912; price 6d. net; pp. 62.

THIS small volume is an addition to the series of "New Tracts for the Times," well worthy of its predecessors. Its author, one of the best-known authorities on Lunacy, explains in simple language how closely right conduct depends on the proper working of the brain. Vice and anti-social behaviour of all kinds are to be expected from those whose brains do not fulfil their proper functions by reacting normally to stimuli coming from without and by inhibiting excessive reaction. Failure to reach the required standard of brain development generally, or in one particular or another, is the source of most of the sin and much of the misery experienced in this world. The prevention of failure is, therefore, an object of supreme importance which may be pursued along two lines. First, by the eradication of hereditary tendencies to evil and disease. Concerning this the author says: "It is one of the great hopes for humanity that this can be done, and that thereby human life, social and national, will be rendered more moral, happier and more efficient." Secondly, by proper training of the brain, particularly in such ways as lead to the development of "conscience" and powers of self-control. The formation of bad habits must be discouraged by removing from the surrounding of the adolescent circumstances which excite the instincts in an excessive or unhealthy way.

EDGAR SCHUSTER.

Hourwich, ISAAC H., Ph.D. *Immigration and Labour.* G. P. Putnam's Sons; 1912; price 10s. 6d. net; pp. 544.

MR. HOURWICH states in his preface that he "treats immigration solely as an economic question," and his book, therefore, does not contain much that is directly connected with eugenics. Questions of race mixture and the problems which Professor Boas has been lately attacking do not come within the scope of the book. Mr. Hourwich is chiefly concerned with the influence which immigrants have upon the standard of living of the American labourer and similar questions; the book, indeed, contains